

PROSPECTS OF A PROXIMATE PEACE.

It may appear at first sight, perhaps, to be both hard and unfair, when the burdens and sacrifices occasioned by the Russian war do not fall in a direct manner upon the colonies, to mete out from the Antipodes a calm and indifferent verdict upon those puny rulers of a mighty State who neither knew or learnt how successfully to wage the war into which they had drifted, nor had the firmness to terminate it only upon the safe grounds necessary for its permanence. Still, as the same blood permeates through the veins of Australians as in the inhabitants of the United Kingdom, and as all are citizens of the British Empire, the sympathies of the colonists must beat in unison with the permanent interests and the sustained honour of the mother country; and as jurymen can take a most dispassionate survey of the history and progress of this great struggle—having, at the same time, a keen anxiety that our ancestral land should stand out glorious and respected as well as wealthy amongst all the nations of the universe.

It has been said, at the same time philosophically, said by Coleridge, "If men could learn from history, what lessons it might teach us! But party and passion blind our eyes; and the light which experience gives is a lantern on the stern, which shines only on the waves behind." It is, however, the just privilege of the free man to call things by their right names; and it is indeed an important duty of the press to try to address safe and sound reasons from the pages of history, whereon the public mind may find their deliberate resolves. It has often been the spurious rant of some modern politicians who aspire to statesmanship, that ancient history has ceased to be applicable to the affairs of the present day, from the entire revolutions of the social and conventional intercourse of the world. But these objectors forget that it is not the exact and formal precedent that has any intrinsic weight to guide us to form a judgment, but as human nature remains the same from the time of Adam downwards, a true analogy, deducible from cause and effect, is most valuable as evidence from past events. It is with such feelings, strongly impressed upon my mind, that I offer these observations on the prospects of a treaty of peace at the Paris Conference. On such occasions the mind instinctively recurs to former treaties of peace—the latest first, and then backward, until we revert to the peace signed at Amiens. It has been quaintly remarked that history almost repeats itself, like a mocking bird. Certainly in the present Russian War, there incontestably appears the striking and paramount feature of our former war against revolutionary France, and against Napoleon, which embodied the principle of universal aggression, and who aimed at universal dominion.

Though unwilling to admit that the work of Sir Archibald Alison is conclusively sound, yet many of his passages contain the correct narration of facts, and the feelings of the times in their regular order, and as one who will peruse the thirty-sixth chapter of that history, "Revolutionary War may find matter of safe instruction for the present day, to be drawn from the events which led to the rupture, in May, 1803, of the Peace of Amiens. It is astounding to observe that with a slight alteration of some of the names and dates, sections of that chapter (which consist of an abstract of the parliamentary debates) might be wisely applied to our probable relations with Russia shortly after the expected peace may have been characteristically proclaimed on the 1st of April last at Paris. One portion of the Minister's defence, ratified by the approval of Parliament, deserved to be recorded as an axiom not to be forgotten amidst the pinnings of the Peace party and of those who would carry out the plan of non-interference to all lengths, and the following—"We have found, then—and this the experience of the Peace of Amiens has clearly proved—that a country circumstanced as this is cannot safely abjure a dignified policy, and abdicate its rank among nations; that with such a country to be lowly is not to be sheltered—to be unpunishing is not necessarily to be safe."

Who, moreover, could be surprised to find that, after the many paper and diplomatic defeats with which English negotiators terminated their task, whether at Utrecht, or at Vienna, or Paris, that the meshes skillfully woven round Mr. Lord Clarendon and Cowley, will not both create and necessitate "a feverish anxiety to come to a rupture," as described by Alison (in 118 sec. of the above-named chapter), being manifested by the British Government so soon after the Treaty of Amiens? They may, then, by their long-sought experience, find that the Russian objects of the peace are not almost identical with the intentions of Napoleon, avowed to La Fayette, to preserve the peace so as to overwhelm his opponent with greater certainty, after a six years' peace had enabled him to accumulate stupendous means of offence. Now, there will probably be this additional fact, that British capital and skill will, doubtless, be directly subordinated to be placed at the service of the present Czar to carry out railways necessary to convey Russian troops, in some future aggression by Muscovite autocracy, against the territorial independence of the rest of the world. Guns will be supplied to equip the Baltic fleet, 38 as to be formidable even outside of the harbours of Swaborg and of Cronstadt. Foundries and machinery to make cannons and Minie's will be established according to the latest patents adopted by America; and by the Western Powers, so as to produce a never-failing supply of the munitions of war. To cover these preparations for offensive warfare, we shall infallibly see the introduction of various schemes of a financial and industrial character, with Credit Foncier, and Limited Liability, which will be puffed and re-puffed by all the Russian agencies, and their organs, as so many indelible certificates of the dove-like intentions of holy but bearded Russia! I could even conceive, too, that it may be possible that Cobden and Bright would be supplicated to establish a monopoly of cotton mills within sight of the sacred Kremlin of Moscow, in conjunction and under the direct patronage of the would-be belligerent of Peter the Great's Testament-Executor—Grand Duke Constantine!

The arrival of another mail may remove the last doubt as to Peace being at hand, but the reasons as to its probable permanency may yet, with the fullest propriety, be most searchingly canvassed.

June 26th.

PHILAELETHES.

A correspondent, writing from Athens under date of the 22nd March, says:—"The court and government of Athens are alarmed at the representations which the envoys of England and France have lately made, and public feeling is somewhat excited. The First Secretary of the Russian Embassy, M. de Neuchâtel, has been sent to Germany and St. Petersburg on a special mission. M. Bonduiri, whom Admiral Dundas once designated as his successor as a spy of the Queen of Greece, is to visit London and Paris to plead, it is said, the royal cause."

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT.

(From Yesterday's Mail and Mercury.)

GAS LIGHT IN MATTALAND.—We understand that the works going on for some time past at the Hunter River Hotel, East Maitland, have been brought to a state of completion, and that Mr. Liberoth, of Newcastle, on Thursday evening, when the first lighting up will take place, to show the power of gas as an illuminating agent by the display of a star, in front of his house, consisting of some two or three hundred lights. The members of St. John's Total Abstinence Society celebrated the thirteenth anniversary of the foundation of the institution, by a musical reunion, on Tuesday evening last. The Temple of Concord, the attendance was fair. The music, instrumental and vocal, was excellent, and manifested a marked proficiency, reflecting great credit both on the teacher and the taught. At the close of the programme, the chairman arose and complimented Mr. Fanning on the success which attended his efforts in the organization of the band, and tendering them the thanks of the meeting for their exertions in contributing to the amusements of the evening—dismissed the Assembly at ten o'clock.

THE EARLY CLOSING MOVEMENT.—From an advertisement in our columns of this issue, it will be seen that a movement has been commenced for the introduction into Maitland and the system of early closing on Saturday afternoon, now gaining a footing elsewhere. We hear that circulars have been issued, with a view to procure the consideration of the subject previous to holding of the meeting advertised; and that several of the principal tradesmen in Newcastle, and others to whom the matter has been broached hitherto, have appeared favourably disposed to the undertaking. MATTALAND FIRE BRIGADE.—A meeting of volunteers took place on Monday evening, at Mr. Cober's, East Maitland, when several names were added to the roll, and additions to the funds at disposal were received. Mr. Brown, of the Sydney Fire Brigade, being present, offered to be present at a practising meeting, which it was agreed should be held on Friday morning. From an inspection of the plans and specifications for the engine-house, it appears that that building will be a neat erection, 18 feet long, 12 feet wide, by 10 feet high, of hand-work, weatherboarded, with three small windows; the roof being of galvanised iron.

ARMIDALE.

(From The Express, 31st June.)

THE WEATHER.—The weather since last Saturday has been very severe. On Sunday evening a thunderstorm, followed by rain, set in, and continued till nine p.m. the snow-storm commenced, and continued for about two hours, leaving the ground covered with a spottish mantle of three or four inches in depth. After a brief lull, the wind shifted to the east, and rain showers occurred until daylight. On Monday morning, at a late hour, large patches of snow still lay on the streets of Armidale, and as the day advanced, the westerly breeze swept up heavy rain clouds, and the copious discharge which followed soon cleared away the last vestiges of the snow. On Tuesday we had rain, sleet, and a little snow. Since then we have had several very heavy frosts and abundant snow. The weather yesterday was fine. The very severe weather we have experienced during the past week is a convincing proof that the "New England" is quite applicable to this district.

THE ROCKY RIVER DISTRICTS, June 17.—There is not much news of importance this week, with the exception of a heavy fall of snow on Sunday night, followed by bitter cold winds on Monday, thereby preventing the digging operations greatly. Water is now to be obtained in almost every direction, and snow having melted, and the ground being under the sun (Tuesday's), and the digging of the morning's run to the scene of their labours. A proof of the diggings, on the whole, doing well, is the report of one of the many workmen on the rocky river, that he has struck a vein of ten thousand pounds in one month in buying gold.

AGRICULTURE IN NEW ENGLAND.—The agricultural capabilities of New England are generally admitted to be superior to those of England, and the climate is so similar to that of England, that wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, &c., are scarcely ever known to fail. It must be borne in mind, also, that there is naturally no deficiency of soil for agricultural purposes either in quantity or quality. The best parts of this district are very thinly timbered; on many extensive tracts of rich land there is scarcely sufficient quantity for firewood. We have made enquiries to the yield for wheat in New England, and we are informed by some of the oldest settlers, that twenty-five bushels per acre is a fair average, taking a number of seasons together. Crops of thirty, forty, and fifty bushels to the acre are occasionally obtained. Oats and barley are also raised, and the climate is admirably adapted for the growth of potatoes.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

We have papers to the 20th ultimo. The most important article of news is the prorogation of the Legislative Council, on Thursday, the 19th, by his Excellency Sir Richard Macdonald. Says the Adelaide Times:

"At a quarter past 2 o'clock, just as hon. members were apparently at a loss to know what to do next to keep up the appearance of the thing, the ratification of the peace, and the appearance of the Hon. the Attorney-General, and the Hon. the Solicitor-General, and the Hon. the Secretary of the Colonies, and the Hon. the Treasurer, and the Hon. the Minister of Education, and the Hon. the Minister of Public Works, and the Hon. the Minister of Lands, and the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture, and the Hon. the Minister of Commerce, and the Hon. the Minister of Finance, and the Hon. the Minister of the Interior, and the Hon. the Minister of the Navy, and the Hon. the Minister of the Army, and the Hon. the Minister of the Marine, and the Hon. the Minister of the Air, and the Hon. the Minister of the Earth, and the Hon. the Minister of the Sky, and the Hon. the Minister of the Water, and the Hon. the Minister of the Fire, and the Hon. the Minister of the Wind, and the Hon. the Minister of the 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As the representative of the Sovereign, the exercise of that prerogative which "becomes the throne monarch better than his crown," would at this particular time be singularly appropriate and acceptable.

F. W. COSENS' MONTHLY CIRCULAR.
(Per James Baines, April 5.)
ALTHOUGH for some time past it has been the general feeling

The investigation into the conduct of the officers of the Russian army is proceeding with great severity. The official military paper is filled with sentences pronounced for various offences against officers stationed in distant parts of the empire.

The subjoined report of the Produce Mark is taken from the *Home News*, dated the 5th April:—

The levels in this colony contrasted most unfavourably with those of New South Wales, and would entail a larger outlay, in spite of the difference in the value of labour here. If no locomotive difficulty arose a trunk line might be completed in Woodend in about eighteen months from this time. The sum

contrary, that there is, as Captain Clarke estimates, no judicious alternative between a common road at £3000 a mile and a locomotive

the winter season, be sure of tempestuous weather, and finally, by this process, Sydney, the seat of government, would be the last place to receive Majesty's mails."

the Atrato, one of the Company's new vessels, the distance at an average rate of 14½ knots per hour, the highest speed which has, we believe, been obtained.

along a not unfrequented street, with an ord-
lowing him at a short distance. All these persons
received warning letters of the fate intended for
as had also Count Magawly, who was assassinated
long since, and it is said, others have received

ing and other matters as may be brought before
ing in terms of the deed of settlement. Candidate
office of director require to give notice to the
Directors fourteen days at the least before the day
tion. By order of the board.

WASTE PAPER for SALE. Apply to
HERALD Office.

NOTICE. — Mr. THOMAS WYNNE has
appointed our representative in Sydney, and

for the
board of
of elec-

FORD
LIGHT in
to trans-

HIGHLY IMPORTANT to Wine and Spirit
Merchants, Custom House, &c.

and others.—The consignments of choice wines, spirits, liquors, ale, and porter will be offered for unreserved sale at the stores of Messrs. Gilchrist, Watt, and Co., Margate-place, **THIS DAY, Tuesday, 1st July, at 11 o'clock.** Parties would do well to take advantage of this desirable opportunity of replenishing their stocks.

BOWDEN and THRELKELD, Auctioneers.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—To Wine and Spirit Merchants, Hotel Keepers, Country Buyers, and others.—The large and important sale of choice wines, spirits, ale, porter, &c., will take place at the stores of Messrs. Gilchrist, Watt, and Co., Margaret-place, THIS DAY, Tuesday, 1st July, at 11 o'clock. Parties wishing to replenish their stocks will do well to avail themselves of this opportunity.

BOWDEN and THRELKELD, Auctioneers.
City Mart, George-street, Monday, 30th June, 1866.
GEORGEVILLE, Camperdown.
BOWDEN and THRELKELD will sell
by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street, on
TUESDAY next, the 3rd July, at 11 o'clock

Two building allotments situated at Georgeville, Camperdown, being lots No. 19 and 20 on the plan of the Georgeville Estate, each having 30 feet to Grosse-street, by depths of 90 feet, being about the middle of the block, on the south side of Grosse-street. Georgeville has been much improved within the last few years by the erection of cottages suitable for the middle and labouring classes.

the last, and only remaining lot, is situated between the Red Lion Inn, Parramatta Road, to which the omnibuses ply from the city.

most important to Timber Merchants, Builders, Contractors, Architects, Hay Dealers, Livery Stablekeepers, &c., &c.

Great Unreserved Sale of Superior Hobart Town Timber, comprising Shingles, Battens, Laths, Joists, Quartering, Boards, &c., &c., &c.

BOWDEN and THRELKELD have re-

received instructions to sell by auction, at Macnamara's Wharf, Windmill-street, on **THURSDAY** next, the 3rd July, at half-past 2 o'clock prompt. The entire cargo of the **Lion**, just arrived from Hobart town, comprising

11,000 feet ditto, 6 x 4, 8 to 10 feet
1,260 feet ditto, 6 x 6, 12 to 15 feet
2,100 feet ditto, 8 x 3, 15 feet
2,846 battens
85,000 shingles. Also
20 tons superior hydraulic pressed hay, in bales of 1½
cwt. each.
The special notice of the trade and buyers reme-

ally is particularly directed to the above shipment of superior timber, being the last and only vessel then loading for this market; the whole of which will be for positive unreserved sale, in lots to suit purchasers.

Terms at sale.

Treat Unreserved Sale of Choice Ales, Stout, Wines, Spirits, Champagne, &c., at the Stores of Messrs. Gilchrist & Wauchope.

BOWDEN and THRELKELD have received instructions from Messrs. GUTHRIE, GIBBS, and Co., Margaret-place, to sell highly important to Wine and Spirit Merchants, Publicans, Shippers, Country Buyers, &c., &c. Being a choice shipment, now landing, ex Omar Pasha, and will be sold in lots to suit the convenience of purchasers.

A shipment of splendid Burton ale, in draught, bottled beer, wines, spirits, &c., &c., the greater portion of which is now landing, ex Omar Pasha, comprising
Ex Omar Pasha.

R & A—
88 hogsheads Menkin's No. 3 Burton ale
100 casks Marzetti's bottled ale
100 ditto ditto stout
Ex Greenock.

C W & Co—
12 hogsheads Fel'on's ale
19 ditto Baird's ditto

50 casks, each 4 dozen, Elliott's porter
50 ditto ditto ditto Baird's ditto
50 ditto ditto ditto Baird's ditto
10 ditto ditto ditto Byass' porter
35 cases ditto ditto Duckworth's ale
SPIRITS.
10 hogsheads Martell's brandy, a very superior
sample

800 cases Cognac
 200 cases Geneva J D K E
 250 cases Lowndes' old tom
 20 hogshheads West India rum
 25 hogshheads R. I. ditto.
 WINE.
 6 hogshheads fine old port

10 quarter-cases ditto ditto
200 cases, each 1 dozen, ditto ditto
300 cases, each 2 dozen ditto
CH in diamond—
14 quarters fine golden sherry
5 octaves ditto ditto
Single grape—
6 ditto superior ditto ditto

Double grape—
4 ditto ditto ditto
Four diamond over G—
1 hoghead golden sherry
TBG—
2 quarters ditto
TR over VP conjoined. —
1.50—20 hogheads, very superior pale sherry

1-75-53 quarters ditto
100 cases superior champagne
The special attention of the trade, hotel keepers, &c., is particularly invited to the very superior quality of the draught ale, being one of the finest samples ever imported into the colony, and will be sold in lot: to suit the convenience of buyers.

BOWDEN and THRELKELD will sell by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-

That substantial and comfortable brick-built cottage, on stone foundation, containing four rooms, with butcher's shop adjoining, having a frontage of 24 feet to Church-street North, by 99 feet 6, exclusive of the shop, which is 10 feet 6 wide by 20 feet

LOT 2.
A brick cottage containing four rooms, adjoining lot 1 now occupied by Mr. Shepherd, who is removing into the country.
This property always lets well, and is situated in a quiet and healthy part of the town.

BOWDEN and THRELKELD have received instructions to sell by auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street, Sydney, on **THURSDAY**.

The well-known cattle station, known as Munderwaddy, or Unnab, containing 63,000 acres, bounded on the south-east by the foot of the north side of the range that divides the Buckhargerwa Run (Mr Morrice's), from this, along the bottom of which range, in a line running about south-west, until met by a blind creek; from thence in a line continuing about south-west, so as to skirt the north side of the

about south-west, to be so with the north side of Lac des
swamp; thence taking a westerly direction to the top of
the range that divides the Urangaline Falls from the Mun-
derwathara Creek, along the top of which range, for about
two miles, from which to a point on the north-west side of
the Mittagong Swamp, about the distance of two miles
from the said swamp's southern commencement on the
Munderwader Creek; thence in straight direction across

ine swamps to remarkable and marked clump of trees on the easterly side of swamps; then by a line running about east and by north to some small waterholes, recognised as being on the boundary line between Mr. Supple's (now Carter's) Run, from which waterholes, in a line about south-east to the point first named in this description, namely, the north side of the range that divides the Run from Mr. Morrice's.

Terms at sale.

Six Houses in Forbes street.
One House in Judge-street.

BOWDEN and THRELKELD will sell by
auction, at the City Mart, 211, George-street,
on **THURSDAY**, the 10th day of July, at 11 o'clock,
Six new and handsome Cottages, Registers, situated at

On the north end of Forbes-street, on the west side of the road, a little below Woolloomooloo-street. They are erected of brick and stone, with verandahs in front, covered with corrugated galvanised iron. Each house contains four rooms, kitchen and servants' room over, a yard, back entrance, and right to a supply of water from a good well. Four of

Intending purchasers are invited to inspect the whole. The occupant of the one on the south side has consented to shew that house as a fair specimen of the four finished ones. The two unfinished will be ready by the day of sale, and will be completed in the same manner, so that the

With the above will be sold one House in Judge-street, with a cellar stone front, shingled roof, containing four rooms on the ground floor, a large room on the roof, etched kitchen, yard, well of water, and back entrance.

Title.—The usual Rice Estate Title.

Observe.—A large portion of the purchase-money may

REMAIN AT 6 PER CENT. INTEREST.

